

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) An orally, parenterally, transdermally or subcutaneously administrable pharmaceutical composition containing as an active ingredient the amino acid sequence of the long pentraxin PTX3 having sequence of residues 18-381 of SEQ ID NO: 1, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

18. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claims 17, for the treatment of tumours.

19. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 17, for the treatment of diseases caused by bacteria, fungi, protozoa or viruses, in which said bacteria, fungi, protozoa or viruses show the capacity to bind the long pentraxin PTX3.